

Dear State CSBG Administrators,

Health Care: Today the Senate is expected to modify the health care corrections bill and send the measure back to the House, where it can be cleared for the President's signature in the next day or two. The bill is intended to modify the comprehensive health care overhaul that President Obama signed into law Tuesday (PL 111-148).

Jobs Agenda: Yesterday the House passed its tax incentives bill (HR 4849), the second element of the Democrats' jobs agenda to be passed by the chamber this month. The centerpiece of the bill is an estimated \$13.2 billion for bond programs used largely by state and local governments for infrastructure development. The cost of the \$16.8 billion package would be partly covered by requiring U.S. subsidiaries of foreign-owned companies to pay taxes they have avoided by sending the funds to another country.

Disaster Relief: On Wednesday, the House passed a \$5.7 billion bill meant largely for continuing aid for recent domestic disasters. About \$5.1 billion in the supplemental appropriations bill (HR 4899) will go to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for continuing aid in response to Hurricane Katrina and other U.S. disasters.

(Source: Congressional Quarterly)

We will keep you informed as things progress.